

FWS/OBS-81/24
January 1982
Reprinted September 1985

THE ECOLOGY OF THE MANGROVES OF SOUTH FLORIDA:
A COMMUNITY PROFILE

by

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Performed for
National Coastal Ecosystems Team
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U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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APPENDIX E. Mammals of south Florida mangrove swamps.

MAMMALS OF FLORIDA MANGROVES

Species	Status	Food Habits
Virginia Opossum (<u>Didelphis virginiana</u>)	Abundant	Fruits, berries, insects, frogs, snakes, small birds and mammals
Short-tailed Shrew (<u>Blarina brevicauda</u>)	Uncommon	Insects
Marsh Rabbit (<u>Sylvilagus palustris</u>)	Abundant	Emergent aquatics
Gray Squirrel (<u>Sciurus carolinensis</u>)	Occasional	Fruits, berries, mast, seeds
Fox Squirrel (<u>Sciurus niger</u>)	Rare	Fruits, berries, mast
Marsh Rice Rat (<u>Oryzomys palustris</u>)	Uncommon	Seeds of emergent plants, insects, crabs
Cudjoe Key Rice Rat (<u>Oryzomys argentatus</u>)	Rare	Seeds, insects, crabs
Cotton Rat (<u>Sigmodon hispidus</u>)	Abundant	Sedges, grasses, cray- fish, crabs, insects
Gray Fox (<u>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</u>)	Uncommon	Small mammals, birds
Black Bear (<u>Ursus americanus</u>)	Rare	Fruits, berries, fish, mice
Raccoon (<u>Procyon lotor</u>)	Abundant	Crayfish, frogs, fish
Mink (<u>Mustela vison</u>)	Rare	Small mammals, fish, frogs, snakes, aquatic insects
Striped Skunk (<u>Mephitis mephitis</u>)	Common	Bird eggs and young frogs, mice, larger invertebrates
River Otter (<u>Lutra canadensis</u>)	Uncommon	Crayfish, fish, mussels

MAMMALS OF FLORIDA MANGROVES (concluded)

Species	Status	Food Habits
Panther (<u>Felis concolor</u>)	Very rare	Deer, rabbits, mice, birds
Bobcat (<u>Felis rufus</u>)	Common	Rabbits, squirrels, birds
White-tailed Deer (<u>Odocoileus virginianus</u>)	Common	Emergent aquatics, nuts, acorns, occasionally mangrove leaves
Key Deer (<u>O.v. clavium</u>)	Common on certain Florida Keys (no longer on mainland)	Emergent aquatics and other vegetation
Black Rat (<u>Rattus rattus</u>)	Common	
Bottle-nosed Dolphin (<u>Tursiops truncatus</u>)	Uncommon	Fish
West Indian Manatee (<u>Trichechus manatus</u>)	Uncommon	Submerged aquatics, <u>Zostera</u> , <u>Ruppia</u> , <u>Halodule</u> , <u>Syringodium</u> , <u>Cymodocea</u> , <u>Thalassia</u>

References: Layne 1974; Hamilton and Whittaker 1979; L. Narcisse, R.N. "Ding" Darling Fed. Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel Island, Fla.; personal communication.